

REMARKS

Responsive to the requirement for restriction, applicants elect Group I, claims 1-14, with traverse.

It is believed that the requirement cannot be properly repeated, for the following reasons:

1. New claim 20 is a linking claim, indivisible both from claim 1 from which it depends, and from claim 17.

2. The composition of claim 1 thus cannot usefully produce anything other than the material of claim 20.

3. The material of claim 20, by definition, cannot be produced from anything other than the composition of claim 1.

4. There is not even one way distinctness between the groups of claims, much less two way distinctness.

5. Separate classification is no evidence of the propriety of a requirement for restriction. Classification is solely for the convenience of the Patent Office and the searching public, and cannot reduce an applicant's rights in any way.

Accordingly, an action on the merits of all the claims is respectfully requested.

Application No. 09/975,954
Amdt. dated May 3, 2004
Reply to Office Action of April 2, 2004
Docket No. 0528-1023

The Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 25-0120 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. §1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. §1.17.

Respectfully submitted,

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